1	2	3
4.	Usha (India) Limited, Faridabad.	2.25
5.	ATV Projects India Limited, Mumbai.	3.16
6.	Puskar Chemicals Limited, Mumbai.	1.01
	TOTAL	11.22

Steel export to Thailand

463. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO:
SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Thailand has recently clamped 62 per cent duty on Indian Steel and Steel products, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is also a fact that besides the high rate of duty, the Thailand Government has also imposed some non-tariff barriers to reduce the import of the Indian steel and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this decision would not affect the SAIL and other steel companies in the country; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to protect the interests of the Indian Companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJ KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) Yes, Sir. In July 2002, Thailand had initiated anti-dumping proceedings against Hot Rolled Flat Steel originating from 11 countries, including India. In December 2002 preliminary determination was announced and anti dumping duty imposed against two Indian companies as follows:

SAIL	60.88%
TISCO	66.16%

(b) Yes, Sir. The Thailand Industrial Standard Institution (TISI) certification has been made mandatory for each thickness/size of imported material. Hence, imports into Thailand are restricted only from those producers whose products are approved by TISI.

(c) The Indian export of Hot Rolled Flat Steel products would get adversely affected if the anti dumping duty imposed by Thailand continues. In fact export of Hot Rolled Flat Steel products to Thailand from SAIL has been nil since the imposition of anti dumping duty.

(d) Investigations initiated by Thailand pertain to anti-dumping and not anti-subsidy and the Indian exporters have decided to respond to the petition individually. In so far as SAIL is concerned, they proposed a minimum price undertaking but the Thai Government has not agreed to the same.

Closure of Mahamaya mines of BSP

†464. SHRI GAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for closure of 'Mahamaya' mines of Bhilai Steel Plant; and

(b) the details of present status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJ KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) and (b) The Mahamaya Mines has been closed as mining lease for Mahamaya Mines expired on 3.11.2001. The application for renewal of the mining lease was made in advance on 2.11.2000 to Collector, Durg and for forestry clearance under Forest Conservation Act, 1980 to District Forest Officer, Durg on 15.11.2000. Final approval for mining operations is still awaited. However, mining operations are being intermittently carried out on the basis of temporary working permissions.

Revival of IISCO

465. SHRI GAYA SINGH:
SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Russian Government has refused to invest in the ailing Indian Iron and Steel Company (IISCO) as a part of the revival project lying with the IDBI which is the operating agency of the SAIL; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.